

- I. Project Title: Grand Valley Irrigation Company Fish Screen
- II. Principal Investigator(s): Brent Uilenberg  
Bureau of Reclamation  
2764 Compass Drive, Suite 106  
Grand Junction, CO 81506  
(970) 248-0641  
FAX (970)248-0601  
[builenberg@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:builenberg@uc.usbr.gov)
- III. Project Summary: The Grand Valley Irrigation Company Diversion, located on the Colorado River near Palisade, CO, diverts water into the Grand Valley Canal. Entrainment of native fish in the Grand Valley Canal has been documented. A fish screen and fish return pipeline was constructed in the canal in 2002. This facility was operated from March through June of 2002 until heavy debris loads in the river, originating from upstream wildfires, made it difficult to continue irrigation diversions. The Grand Valley Irrigation Company has been reluctant to continue operation of the fish screen until additional features are installed to improve the ability of the facility to pass debris. These features include 1) installation of a larger capacity electrical powered air compressor, 2) three phase electrical power service, 3) installation of a larger capacity backup generator, and 4) installation of a deflector wall and modified canal alignment to provide more uniform water approach velocities.
- IV. Study Schedule: The fish screen modifications identified above were completed in March 2004.
- V. Relationship to RIPRAP:  
  
Colorado River Action Plan: Mainstem  
II.B.1.b. Screen GVIC diversion to prevent endangered fish entrainment.
- VI. Accomplishment of FY 2004 Tasks and Deliverables, Discussion of Initial Findings and Shortcomings: A contract was awarded in January 2004 and construction was completed in March 2004. The fish screen was operated during the spring and early summer of 2004 until the Grand Valley Irrigation Company discontinued operation due to low river flows.
- VII. Recommendations: The fish screen is now fully operational. The Recovery Program in cooperation with the Grand Valley Irrigation Company needs to develop a mutual understanding of expectations regarding operation of the fish screen and improve communications between the program and company.
- VIII. Project Status: The fish screen modifications have been completed and the fish screen is fully operational.

IX. FY 2004 Budget Status

- A. Funds Provided: \$460,850
- B. Funds Expended: \$560,962
- C. Difference: \$100,112 Note: Difference attributable to all bids exceeding the engineers cost estimate for this work.
- D. Percent of the FY 2004 work completed, and projected costs to complete: The fish screen modifications are 100 percent complete and the fish screen is fully operational. Annual operation and maintenance funding will be required for the life of the facility.
- E. Recovery Program funds spent for publication charges: None

X. Status of Data Submission (Where applicable): NA

XI. Signed: /s/ Brent Uilenberg                      November 5, 2004  
Principal Investigator                      Date

APPENDIX: None